

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electrophotographic photosensitive member comprising a support, and provided thereon a photosensitive layer, wherein;

5        a surface layer of the electrophotographic photosensitive member contains a high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material having a weight-average molecular weight  $M_w$  of from 1,000 or more to 9,000 or less; and  
10        the ratio of the weight-average molecular weight  $M_w$  of the high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material to a number-average molecular weight  $M_n$  of the high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material,  $M_w/M_n$ , is from more than 1.00 to 1.10 or  
15        less.

2. The electrophotographic photosensitive member according to claim 1, wherein said high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material  
20        has an weight-average molecular weight  $M_w$  of from 1,500 or more to 4,000 or less.

3. The electrophotographic photosensitive member according to claim 1, wherein said  
25        high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material is a homopolymer having a repeating structural unit represented by the following Formula (1):



wherein Ar<sup>111</sup> represents a substituted or unsubstituted divalent aromatic hydrocarbon ring group other than a phenylene group, or a substituted or unsubstituted divalent aromatic heterocyclic ring group; and Ar<sup>112</sup> represents a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon ring group or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic heterocyclic ring group.

4. The electrophotographic photosensitive member according to claim 1, wherein said high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material is a random copolymer having a repeating structural unit represented by the following Formula (21) and a repeating structural unit represented by the following Formula (22):



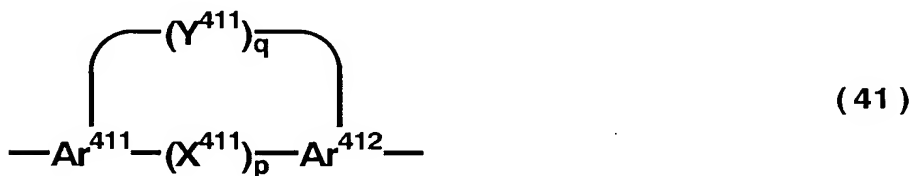
wherein  $\text{Ar}^{211}$  and  $\text{Ar}^{221}$  each independently represent a substituted or unsubstituted divalent aromatic hydrocarbon ring group other than a phenylene group, or a substituted or unsubstituted divalent aromatic heterocyclic ring group; and  $\text{Ar}^{212}$  and  $\text{Ar}^{222}$  each independently represent a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon ring group or a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic heterocyclic ring group; provided that a case is excluded in which the repeating structural unit represented by Formula (21) and the repeating structural unit represented by Formula (22) are identical in structure.

5. The electrophotographic photosensitive member according to claim 1, wherein said high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material is an alternating copolymer alternately having a

repeating structural unit represented by the following Formula (31) and a repeating structural unit represented by the following Formula (32):



wherein Ar<sup>311</sup> and Ar<sup>321</sup> each independently represent a divalent group having a structure represented by the following Formula (41) or the following Formula (42), provided that Ar<sup>311</sup> and Ar<sup>321</sup> differ from each other in structure:



where Ar<sup>411</sup> and Ar<sup>421</sup> each independently represent a substituted or unsubstituted trivalent aromatic hydrocarbon ring group or a substituted or

unsubstituted trivalent aromatic heterocyclic ring group;  $X^{411}$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkylene group, a substituted or unsubstituted siloxane group, a substituted or unsubstituted silylene group, a carbonyl group, a sulfonyl group, an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom;  $Y^{411}$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkylene group, a substituted or unsubstituted amino group, an azo group, a sulfonyl group, an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom; and p and q each independently represent 0 or 1; or

where  $Ar^{421}$  and  $Ar^{422}$  each independently represent



a substituted or unsubstituted divalent aromatic hydrocarbon ring group or a substituted or unsubstituted divalent aromatic heterocyclic ring group;  $X^{421}$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkylene group, a substituted or unsubstituted siloxane group, a substituted or unsubstituted silylene group, a carbonyl group, a sulfonyl group, an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom; and r represents 0 or 1; and

$Ar^{312}$  and  $Ar^{322}$  each independently represent a substituted or unsubstituted monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon ring group or a substituted or

unsubstituted monovalent aromatic heterocyclic ring group.

6. The electrophotographic photosensitive member  
5 according to claim 1, wherein said surface layer contains an electrically insulating binder resin.

7. The electrophotographic photosensitive member  
according to claim 6, wherein said electrically  
10 insulating binder resin is a polycarbonate resin or a polyarylate resin.

8. The electrophotographic photosensitive member  
according to claim 1, wherein said surface layer is  
15 said photosensitive layer.

9. The electrophotographic photosensitive member  
according to claim 1, wherein said photosensitive  
layer has a charge generation layer containing a  
20 charge-generating material and a charge transport layer containing said high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material, and said surface layer is the charge transport layer.

25 10. A process cartridge comprising an electrophotographic photosensitive member having a photosensitive layer on a support, and at least one

means selected from the group consisting of a charging means, a developing means, a transfer means and a cleaning means which are integrally supported; and being detachably mountable to the main body of an electrophotographic apparatus; wherein;

5 a surface layer of said electrophotographic photosensitive member contains a high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material having a weight-average molecular weight  $M_w$  of from 10 1,000 or more to 9,000 or less; and the ratio of the weight-average molecular weight  $M_w$  of the high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material to a number-average molecular weight  $M_n$  of the high-molecular-weight charge-transporting 15 material,  $M_w/M_n$ , is from more than 1.00 to 1.10 or less.

11. An electrophotographic apparatus comprising an electrophotographic photosensitive member having a 20 photosensitive layer on a support, a charging means, an exposure means, a developing means and a transfer means, wherein;

a surface layer of said electrophotographic photosensitive member contains a 25 high-molecular-weight charge-transporting material having a weight-average molecular weight  $M_w$  of from 1,000 or more to 9,000 or less; and

the ratio of the weight-average molecular weight  
Mw of the high-molecular-weight charge-transporting  
material to a number-average molecular weight Mn of  
the high-molecular-weight charge-transporting  
5 material,  $M_w/M_n$ , is from more than 1.00 to 1.10 or  
less.